

"A crashing ocean of sound as Roomful of Teeth joins Seattle Symphony"
– *The Seattle Times*

SEATTLE SYMPHONY MEDIA RELEASES BERIO'S SINFONIA FEATURING GRAMMY-WINNING ENSEMBLE ROOMFUL OF TEETH ON JULY 20

ALBUM INCLUDES VIBRANT PERFORMANCES OF
BOULEZ'S NOTATIONS I-IV AND RAVEL'S *LA VALSE*



*Ludovic Morlot leads the Seattle Symphony and Roomful of Teeth in a performance of Berio's Sinfonia.
Photo by Brandon Patoc.*

AVAILABLE FOR PRE-SALE JULY 6 ON [AMAZON](#) AND [ITUNES](#)

SEATTLE, WA – On the latest Seattle Symphony Media release featuring works by Berio, Boulez and Ravel, Music Director Ludovic Morlot and the Seattle Symphony present exhilarating performances of works by composers that mirror the innovative and vibrant spirit of the orchestra. The July 20 release of the “unforgettable, kaleidoscopic performance” ([Seattle](#)

[Times](#)) of Berio’s Sinfonia featuring Grammy Award-winning ensemble Roomful of Teeth coupled with Boulez’s Notations I–IV for Orchestra and Ravel’s *La valse* create a sonic spectrum unlike any other.

“These three composers drew on the Viennese tradition — Berio from Mahler, Boulez from Schoenberg, Ravel from J. Strauss — and expanded it to create amazingly rich orchestral scores through their incredible skill as orchestrators,” said Music Director Ludovic Morlot. “What a delight it was to work with Roomful of Teeth, whose outstanding versatility makes them ideal champions for this repertoire.”

Berio’s Sinfonia was born out of the social and cultural upheavals of 1968 and 1969, demonstrating the profound power that music has to respond to cultural events. The struggles, protests and hopes of the era are all given voice in the swirling textures of the Sinfonia. Dedicated to Leonard Bernstein, who commissioned Berio in honor of the New York Philharmonic’s 125th anniversary, the Sinfonia began as a response to the assassination of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in April 1968. The work includes a collage of musical quotations and fragments of text from Samuel Beckett’s *The Unnamable* and phrases written by students on the wall of the Sorbonne during the May 1968 revolts in Paris, which the composer witnessed.

Digital downloads and CDs are available through all major online music retailers and streaming services and will be available for pre-sale on July 6, 2018.

To obtain a physical or digital review copy of the release, photos, liner notes or any other information on Seattle Symphony Media, please contact Shiva Shafii at shiva.shafii@seattlesymphony.org.



RECORDING DETAILS

LUCIANO BERIO

Sinfonia for Eight Voices and Orchestra

PIERRE BOULEZ

Notations I–IV for Orchestra

MAURICE RAVEL

La valse

Roomful of Teeth

Ludovic Morlot, conductor
Seattle Symphony

The eight-voice, Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth joins the Seattle Symphony and Ludovic Morlot in an exhilarating live performance of Luciano Berio's *Sinfonia*. Morlot has paired Berio's *Sinfonia* with Boulez's *Notations I–IV* for Orchestra and Ravel's *La valse*, creating a sonic spectrum unlike any other. This recording is also available in an immaculate 5.1 digital surround version engineered by 2017 Grammy Award winner for Best Surround Sound, Dmitriy Lipay.

Total Timing: 58:20 // Catalog Number: SSM1018 // Producer: Dmitriy Lipay //

Label: Seattle Symphony Media

The Seattle Symphony is grateful to Joan Watjen for her generous support of **SEATTLE SYMPHONY MEDIA** CDs in memory of her husband Craig.

Recorded in the S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall, Seattle, Washington. Berio's *Sinfonia* was recorded live in concert on February 4 and 6, 2016. Boulez's *Notations I–IV* was recorded live in concert on November 7 and 9, 2013. Ravel's *La valse* was recorded live in concert on February 5, 7 and 8, 2015.

The performances of Berio's *Sinfonia*, Boulez's *Notations I–IV* and Ravel's *La valse* were presented as part of the Delta Air Lines Masterworks Season. Additional support for *Sinfonia* was provided by Microsoft, and for *La valse* by the Nesholm Family Foundation.

Digital downloads and CDs are available through [iTunes](#), [Amazon](#), [Qobuz](#), [Primephonic](#), [Acoustic Sounds](#) and [HD Tracks](#). Recordings can be streamed through [Apple Music](#), [Spotify](#), [Tidal](#), [Google Play](#), [Rhapsody](#) and [Microsoft Groove](#).

ROOMFUL OF TEETH

Roomful of Teeth is a Grammy Award-winning vocal project dedicated to reimagining the expressive potential of the human voice. Through study with masters from vocal traditions the world over, the eight-voice ensemble continually expands its vocabulary of singing techniques and, through an ongoing commissioning process, forges a new repertoire without borders.

Founded in 2009 by Brad Wells, Roomful of Teeth gathers annually at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA) in North Adams, Massachusetts, where they've studied with some of the world's top performers and teachers in Tuvan throat singing, yodeling, Broadway belting, Inuit throat singing, Korean P'ansori, Georgian singing, Sardinian cantu a tenore, Hindustani music, Persian classical singing and Death Metal singing. Collaborators

include Rinde Eckert, Fred Hersch, Glenn Kotche, Merrill Garbus (of tUnE-yArDs), William Brittelle, ACME (American Contemporary Music Ensemble), Nick Zammuto (of The Books), Toby Twining, ICE (International Contemporary Ensemble), Ted Hearne, Silk Road Ensemble and Ambrose Akinmusire, among many others.

Estelí Gomez, soprano
Martha Cluver, soprano
Caroline Shaw, alto
Virginia Warnken, alto
Eric Dudley, tenor
Avery Griffin, baritone
Dashon Burton, bass-baritone
Cameron Beauchamp, bass
Brad Wells, artistic director

LUDOVIC MORLOT

French conductor Ludovic Morlot has been Music Director of the Seattle Symphony since 2011. Among the many highlights of his tenure, the orchestra has won three Grammy Awards and gave an exhilarating performance at Carnegie Hall in 2014, as reported in *The New York Times*: “The performance Mr. Morlot coaxed from his players was rich with shimmering colors and tremulous energy.”

Trained as a violinist, Morlot studied conducting at the Royal Academy of Music in London and then at the Royal College of Music as recipient of the Norman del Mar Conducting Fellowship. Morlot was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music in 2014 in recognition of his significant contribution to music. He is Chair of Orchestral Conducting Studies at the University of Washington School of Music in Seattle.

SEATTLE SYMPHONY MEDIA

Launched in 2014, [Seattle Symphony Media](#) is the Seattle Symphony’s independent in-house record label. The Symphony has an extensive catalogue of nearly 150 recordings, which have brought forth three Grammy Awards, 23 Grammy Award nominations and two Emmy Awards throughout its history. Under the direction of Music Director Ludovic Morlot, the Symphony’s in-house record label features both “core repertoire” and some of the eclectic and contemporary programming for which the Seattle Symphony has become recognized. The label includes both studio recordings and performances captured live in concert, allowing the organization an unprecedented breadth of repertoire choices.

All recordings are made in the acoustically superb Benaroya Hall and engineered by the

Grammy Award-winning recording engineer Dmitriy Lipay. Using the Symphony's own state-of-the-art in-house recording studio, recordings have been engineered to audiophile standards and aim to capture as realistically as possible the sound of the orchestra performing onstage with naturalistic imaging, depth of field and dynamic range. Distributed by Naxos of America, the recordings are available in both physical and digital formats from a variety of retailers. Digital content is available in stereo, "Mastered for iTunes," 96k 24-bit high resolution and 5.1 surround sound.

SEATTLE SYMPHONY

The Seattle Symphony is one of America's leading symphony orchestras and is internationally acclaimed for its innovative programming and extensive recording history. Under the leadership of Music Director Ludovic Morlot since September 2011, the Symphony is heard from September through July by more than 500,000 people through live performances and radio broadcasts. It performs in one of the finest modern concert halls in the world — the acoustically superb Benaroya Hall — in downtown Seattle. Its extensive education and community engagement programs reach over 65,000 children and adults each year. The Seattle Symphony has a deep commitment to new music, commissioning many works by living composers each season. The orchestra has made nearly 150 recordings and has received three Grammy Awards, 23 Grammy nominations, two Emmy Awards and numerous other accolades. In 2014 the Symphony launched its in-house recording label, Seattle Symphony Media.

###